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In This Issue



IN THIS ISSUE

Welcome to the August issue of 'ABS News for Libraries'. Spring has just started to visit Canberra, and the creative energies must be stirring as there is just so much activity occurring both in the ABS and the community. The ABS is still busily touring with its Census roadshows, with consistently high demand for training across the country. Read about some of our recent activities in the Special, Public and Education Library sections.

One of our key publications, Australian Social Trends (cat.no.4102.0), was released this month. AST brings statistics and analysis together to tell stories about current social issues of importance to Australians. We have taken a different approach to Census news as well. Readers will find the spotlight turned on them as

we start to feature innovative and client-focused initiatives to provide access to Census data. In this issue you can see the great work done by Mackay Public Library. If you have discovered similar endeavours in your internet travels, or your organisation has developed a great initiative to provide access to Census data for your clients, we would love to hear from you. In return, the ABS will send out a small 'thank you' prize.

For the latest web developments, check out NetNews and read about an improved email notification system that allows users to subscribe to individual publications. We have also developed and released a blog called 'Statistically Speaking' where you will find news, tips and information on accessing and using ABS data.

And there's more: regional roadshows, training, a Census quiz.....I hope you enjoy this feature-packed issue.

Stop the Press!



Profiles Census Basic Community Profiles were released yesterday to the web. If you are looking for a comprehensive set of statistical data for an area you select, then this is the resource for you. Best of all, this information is available free of charge.

NetNews



NETNEWS

ABS Blog for Libraries

The ABS is always looking for new or alternate ways of reaching its users and bring them the latest statistical information and support. We are also committed to listening to our users and their needs. Blogs allow both of these activities to occur in the same forum.

The ABS has launched 'Statistically Speaking', a blog for librarians (and the first blog for the ABS) and other like-minded information professionals featuring the latest information, news, tips and stories relating to the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The blog allows us to deliver articles and news to our audience that will primarily highlight different features of the website, and more importantly deliver this information as soon as it is released.

Recent articles include an update on Census data release dates, the new Education Services pages, and some tips on finding obesity statistics.

Improved Email Notification service



Free email notification service

Many of you will be familiar with and use the ABS email notification system. The ABS have now developed some additional functionality that allows users to subscribe to individual publications. This is great news for customers, as now it is even easier for you to control exactly what ABS information is delivered to you.

Make sure you select the **Advanced** tab to take advantage of the new functionality. The screenshot below demonstrates how you can build a personalised collection of ABS products aligned with your interests.

CREATE OR UPDATE A SUBSCRIPTION

Basic

Advanced

On this page: Select statistical products or groups of products that you would like to subscribe to by using the dropdown boxes below.

Step 1. Make your selection and select Go:

3. Demography

Tick the box next to the product group(s) you are interested in, then use the Add or Remove button to update your subscription. You can also choose a sub-topic to select a specific product.

33. Vital statistics

- ☐ All
- ☒ 3301.0 - Births, Australia
- ☐ 3301.0.80.001 - Births, Australia -- Electronic Publication
- ☐ 3302.0 - Deaths, Australia
- ☐ 3302.0.55.001 - Life Tables, Australia
- ☐ 3302.0.80.001 - Deaths, Australia -- Electronic Publication

To remove products from this list, select the item to be removed and use the Remove button.

☐ 6202.0. Labour Force, Australia

Do you have any questions or concerns regarding privacy? Read the FAQs on the ABS website.

Feature Article



FEATURE ARTICLE



Australian Social Trends 2007

The 2007 edition of Australian Social Trends is a valuable resource for library users seeking information on current social issues. Articles draw on a wide range of statistics, not just from the ABS, but also from other official sources.

This edition includes a focus on **fertility, maternity and babies** (such as recent increases in Australia's fertility and maternity leave arrangements), as well as a number of articles presenting international comparisons of issues (such as fertility and labour force participation). Australian Social Trends covers key topics of interest for wide audience, including those engaged in research, journalism, marketing, teaching and social policy, as well as anyone interested in how we live today and how we've changed over recent decades. The 2007 edition has articles about one-parent families, international students, wealth in housing, overweight and obesity, trends in household consumption and women's experience of partner violence.

Search for topics of interest across all Australian Social Trends editions in the cumulative index (covering more than 400 articles).

Australian Social Trends 2007: List of Chapters and Articles

1. Population	2. Family and community
<p>Recent increases in Australia's fertility - examines age, socioeconomic and broad geographic differences in the recent fertility increases in Australia.</p> <p>International fertility comparison - compares fertility rates and age patterns of fertility in Australia with seven OECD countries.</p> <p>Australia's babies - presents data on a range of factors affecting the health of babies including infant mortality and illness rates.</p> <p>Migration: Permanent additions to Australia's population - looks at the recent changes in the type of migration, particularly the focus on skilled migration, and the characteristics of the migrants.</p>	<p>Lifetime marriage and divorce trends - looks at the probabilities of marriage and divorce and the expected length of marriages in 1985–87 and in 2000–02.</p> <p>One parent families - profiles one-parent families, focusing on their labour force participation and economic wellbeing.</p> <p>Before and/or after school care - explores the use of before and/or after school care, including the number of hours and days used, the cost and the labour status of parents who used this type of care.</p>
3. Health	4. Education and training
<p>Overweight and obesity - explores the increasing prevalence of overweight and obese Australians.</p> <p>Diabetes mellitus - reports on the prevalence of diabetes, the health status of people with diabetes and their use of health services.</p> <p>Selected chronic conditions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples - explores diabetes, cardiovascular disease and kidney disease prevalence, hospitalisation and mortality rates among Indigenous people.</p>	<p>Qualifications profile of Australians - examines the qualifications Australians held in 2006 and looks at recent changes in the levels of qualifications, fields of study and labour market outcomes.</p> <p>Training for a trade - considers recent trends in trades' apprenticeships and traineeships.</p> <p>International students in Australia - describes trends in international student arrivals and enrolments.</p>
5. Work	6. Economic resources
<p>Labour force participation - an international comparison - describes how trends in Australia's labour force participation compare with other similar OECD countries.</p> <p>Maternity leave arrangements - examines the type and length of maternity leave used by women employees.</p> <p>Work-related injuries - discusses work-related injury rates across different industries and occupations as well as the types of injuries, how they occurred and time off work.</p>	<p>Purchasing power - considers trends in overall purchasing power, focusing on how prices have changed relative to changes in average income and wealth.</p> <p>Trends in household consumption - examines changes in household consumption expenditure levels in recent decades.</p> <p>Low income low wealth households - looks at characteristics of these households such as their composition, labour force status, main source of income and spending patterns.</p>
7. Housing	8. Other areas of concern
<p>Wealth in homes of owner-occupied households - describes the increase in home equity between 1994–95 and 2003–04, the distribution of home equity across age groups and equity of recent first home buyers.</p> <p>Larger dwellings, smaller households - examines changes in household size and number of bedrooms, including the types of households with spare bedrooms and the size of new homes.</p>	<p>Interpersonal violence - examines the prevalence of violence among adults, the characteristics of those who experienced violence and their responses to it.</p> <p>Women's experience of partner violence - focuses on women's experience of partner violence, including the characteristics of the women and the violence.</p> <p>Participation in sports and physical recreation - discusses the types of sports and physical recreation Australians do.</p>

Household waste - investigates recent trends in the generation and treatment of household waste including recycling.

Each of the chapters also includes a set of national and state/territory summary tables and graphs which present key social indicators. There are also tables providing international comparisons in the areas of population, health, education and work at the end of the publication.



Community of Users &
Producers of Statistics

CUPS - The Community that Counts

Australia's National Statistical Service (NSS) represents the range of statistical services that are collectively provided for Australia. The primary aim of the NSS is to provide an accurate, up-to-date, comprehensive and meaningful picture of the economy, society and the environment to support the formulation and monitoring of policies and to inform Australian society.

A key strategy of the NSS is to develop a strong community of people interested in statistics. A "Community of Users and Producers of Statistics" (CUPS) has been formed to provide a forum for sharing information and for organising community networking and activities. CUPS is open to anyone with a statistical or a statistically-related role in Australian, State and local governments and the academic and business sectors.

The CUPS website contains information on training, recruitment and career development; statistical references; and links to conferences, seminars and workshops of interest to the Community. The CUPS website also links to relevant professional associations and information networks. As the community develops, interactive networking facilities may be added. If you would like to hear more about CUPS or if you have an event that you would like to share with the Community please email inquiries@nss.gov.au.

Census



CENSUS

With the release of 2006 Census data, libraries all over the country have been helping their clients find and use the latest statistics about Australia and their local area. Libraries can provide their clients with easy access to Census data by adding Census pages and local area QuickStats links to their own Library website. The Mackay Libraries in Queensland are a great example of how a public library is using their website to help clients find and use the latest data about their local community.

Mackay Libraries - Valuing Community Information

Mackay Libraries have a continuing commitment to the provision of ABS data for customers, councillors, council staff, library staff, visitors, students and researchers. They have created a Statistics section as part of their Library website, which includes links to Mackay Statistics, Census 2006 data, and other popular statistics from the ABS.

The Libraries' Information Services team designed the Statistics pages and are responsible for keeping the information current. The team use the free ABS email notification service to keep up-to-date with new ABS products and releases. The website statistics and user feedback have been extremely positive and clearly indicate the value of providing links to selective, current and community-specific ABS information.

Judy Tayt, Queensland Information Skills Consultant, recently visited Mackay to provide staff with a refresher training session on 2006 Census Data. The training was very well-received with Senior Information Services Librarian, Briengan Rodgers, commenting "some of my co-workers were so enthusiastic about the information you provided that I have asked them to co-present a short...session for

staff who missed your visit".



ABS links are located within the Information Services pages and are arranged thematically.

- The general Statistics page contains links to popular ABS features such as Australia at a Glance, Queensland Key statistics, the Population clock and the current year book. This page also contains an ABS RSS feed.
- Mackay statistics includes links to QuickStats data for the Mackay Local Government area as at Census night 2006, the July OESR profile for Mackay, the current Mackay Whitsunday Regional Statistical Profile, ABS Regional Population Growth 1996 to 2006, ABS Regional Statistics, the Bureau of Transport and Regional Economics annual review of Australia's social and economic conditions and a link to the Local Government and Planning Department's population growth and housing fact sheets.
- The Census 2006 page contains information on the Census, eCensus and likely developments for the 2011 Census plus links to recently released statistics.



Fig 2: Judy Tayt, Queensland Information Skills Consultant (centre) recently delivered a Census training session to Mackay Libraries staff.

Shortcuts



SHORTCUTS

Census Quiz

Test your Census navigation knowledge

For solutions and additional questions see the Self-Directed Learning pages under the ABS Training section of the website.



Using QuickStats

1. The percentage of persons 65 years and over in Woy Woy is greater than the Australian average:

- a. True
- b. False

2. Which city has a higher percentage of separated or divorced persons?

- a. Sydney
- b. Darwin

3. The percentage of persons in Australia who speak Italian at home has increased since the 2001 Census:

- a. True
- b. False



Using Census Tables

English Proficiency:

4. How many people in Adelaide speak English 'not well or not at all'?

- a. 3 090
- b. 30 121
- c. 1 105 841

Religion:

5. The number of people recording Hinduism as their religion has more than doubled in Brisbane over the last 10 years:

- a. True
- b. False

Transport:

6. How many dwellings in the suburb of Clarendon Vale, Tasmania have no motor vehicles?

- a. 12
- b. 87
- c. 190

Unpaid Household Work

7. Which group undertook the most unpaid domestic work in Newcastle Local Government Area?

- a. Females aged 25-34
- b. Males aged 65-74
- c. Females aged 35-44



Using MapStats

Housing costs:

8. How many Census Collection Districts in the suburb of Bankstown, NSW, have 47-54% of households with housing costs of 30% or more of gross income?

- a. 36
- b. 3
- c. 6



Using Community Profiles

9. Which Community Profile would you download to locate a set of tables for Collection District no. 2011103 (Sea Lake, Vic) that includes age by sex, family income, dwelling structures, religion, language, country of birth, and family composition data?

- a. Working Population Profile
- b. Basic Community Profile
- c. Expanded Community Profile

Special Libraries



SPECIAL LIBRARIES

Census Presentation in the ACT - the best laid plans...

The ABS has been visiting a variety of Federal and Territory government departments around the ACT delivering Census Information Sessions in the months leading up to, and after the first release of 2006 Census data.

However a Census session held in ABS House on the 4th of July didn't quite go to plan when the fire alarms started sounding. Session attendees were evacuated out into the cold and rain - not a enjoyable experience! Despite these interruptions, attendees were very complementary of Nicola's informative and useful session. Some attendees even survived the long wait in the car park and returned to hear how it ended!

Census Roadshow travels Top End

Since early July various staff from the Northern Territory Regional Office have been involved in delivering Census Roadshow presentations to both government and non-government organisations throughout the 'Top End'.

This has provided perfect tandem opportunities for the regional provision of ABS Website training delivered by Pia Loffley, the local LEP/ISP Coordinator.

So far, Pia has travelled to Alice Springs, Tennant Creek and Katherine where much interest was shown by library staff, government department and media employees for ABS website navigation skills in light of the recent release of the 2006 Census of Population and Housing data.



As word has spread, Pia intends revisiting some areas to offer other local groups this important service. One of the most-asked questions has been about population figures - which is the right one to use? If you have the same question, try the following fact-sheet on population figures. If you are looking for Indigenous population figures, consult the recently-released Population Distribution, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 2006 (cat. no. 4705.0)

Public Libraries



PUBLIC LIBRARIES

NSW 2006 Census Regional Roadshows

The first results from the 2006 Census were released on 27 June 2007. To help regionally-based decision makers understand what is available and how to access it the ABS conducted a series of free information seminars across New South Wales in June and July.

The Census seminars covered how to access free Census data using the ABS's new Census web products, including snapshots of the 2006 Census results for the local area. It also presented the range of consultancy and training services the ABS offers to help clients better understand and use statistical data for informed decision making.

The Census seminars were held in Newcastle, Wollongong, Lismore, Dubbo, and Wagga Wagga, and were attended by people from local councils, NSW State Government agencies, and local businesses, and other organisations.



In Newcastle two sessions were run on the 28th of June 2007 at Wallsend District Library. Our thanks to Newcastle Regional Library for helping us with the venue and publicity.

The Wollongong session was held on 28th of June at Wollongong City Council Administration Building. This was a very popular session, with many attendees from libraries. Our thanks to Wollongong City Library for helping us with the venue and publicity.

In Wagga Wagga the session was on 11th of July at Wagga Wagga Council's Civic Centre. This session even had local TV news and Wagga Wagga's Lord Mayor attending. Our thanks to Riverina Regional Library for their help with the venue and publicity.

In Lismore two seminars were held on 28th of June at



Southern Cross University Library. Attendees came from across the Richmond Tweed area. Our thanks to Southern Cross University Library for helping us with the venue and publicity.

In Dubbo the session was run on 3rd of July at Macquarie Regional Library's Dubbo Branch Library. This was also a popular session with the room's capacity being tested. Attendees came from as far afield as Bathurst, Bourke, Cobar, and Walgett. Our thanks to Macquarie Regional Library for their hosting of this event.



The ABS also visited the Dubbo, New England, Riverina, and Richmond Tweed regions. We ran ABS training sessions for the NSW State Reference Library, University of New England Library, Armidale Dumaresq Public Library, Tamworth City Library, Inverell Shire Public Library, Tenterfield Public Library, Southern Cross University Library, Richmond Tweed Regional Library, Macquarie Regional Library, Western NSW TAFE Libraries, and Waverley Library.

Over 400 people attended the four census training sessions for metropolitan libraries and other ABS clients at the NSW Office in Sydney in May. These were very popular, with waiting lists for all sessions.

Our Census Library Partnership Program was launched to promote the 2006 Census data release in NSW communities. 110 public, TAFE, and University libraries participated, and were sent a promotion kit.

2006 Census data can be accessed on the ABS website.

Please call the ABS's National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135070 if you need any help with Census data.

PLA Conference in Adelaide

The ABS were recently invited to speak about 'Measuring Community Strength' at the Public Libraries Conference - a topical issue for many local communities, and an excellent opportunity to talk Census data. The ABS also sponsored a trade stand at the conference, which proved to be a popular stop for conference attendees wishing to renew acquaintances and pass on positive feedback regarding the presentation.

The conference was considered a big success attendees and organisers alike, and the ABS extends its offer of support to those looking to implement local service initiatives. Contact your state representative if you want to discuss your statistical needs.



Pam Balfour at the PLA conference

Education Libraries



EDUCATION LIBRARIES

Census @ Southern Cross University

University, TAFE and Education libraries have been promoting 2006 Census data.

Anne Freer, NSW ISP Consultant visited Southern Cross University and delivered a Census seminar.



Southern Cross University LEP Contact, Tim Pedrazzini with their Census release display

New Publications:

The ABS has recently released several resources which are excellent starting points for tracking down data in specific subject areas:

Sports and Physical Recreation: a Statistical Overview, Australia, 2007 (Edition 1) (cat. no. 4156.0)
This publication brings together the data on sports and physical recreation, from a range of sources. It contains information about the number of people who play sports; the most popular sports played; the number of people attending sporting events; the amount people spend on sports and physical recreation; the economic activity of businesses, clubs and associations involved in providing sports and physical recreation goods and services; the people who work in sports and physical recreation occupations or industries; and the levels of support provided by volunteers, sponsorship and government funding.

A Directory of Education and Training Statistics, 2007 (cat. no. 1136.0)
Check this Directory to find what data sources, data items and publications are available relating to Education and Training. It includes information about education costs and expenditures, childcare and preschool education, primary and secondary school education, vocational education and training, higher education, indigenous education and training, other statistical or research reports on education and training, and on classifications and manuals for Australian education and training statistics.

Guide to Migrant Statistical Sources, 2007 (cat. no. 3414.0)
Search by topic to find the key data sources for both ABS and non-ABS statistics. This guide brings together summaries of all Australian statistics collections relating to migrants and ethnicity, and includes government, academic and private sources.
If you are aware of other migrant related data that may be of interest, let our Migrant Statistics Unit know by sending an email to: migrant.statistics.unit@abs.gov.au

A new Migrant Data Matrix is currently under development to be used in conjunction with the Guide.

About this Release

The ABS News for Libraries Newsletter is produced by the Information Skills Program and distributed to libraries in the public, education and government sectors. This newsletter keeps them up to date on the news and items of interest to the library community, including web site developments, training and

publications of relevance, and to promote ABS products and services.

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